

# Routes to tour in Germany

## The Harz and Heath Route



German roads will get you there - to areas at times so attractive that one route leads to the next, from the Harz mountains to the Lüneburg Heath, say. Maybe you should take a look at both. The Harz, northernmost part of the Mittelgebirge range, is holiday country all the year round. In summer for hikers, in winter for skiers in their tens of thousands. Tour from the hill resorts of Osterode, Clausthal-Zellerfeld or Bad Harzburg or from the 1,000-

year-old town of Goslar. The Heath extends from Celle, with its town centre of half-timbered houses unscathed by the war and the oldest theatre in Germany, to Lüneburg, also 1,000 years old. It boasts wide expanses of flat countryside, purple heather and herds of local curly-horned sheep.

Visit Germany and let the Harz and Heath Route be your guide.



- 1 Brunswick
- 2 An old Lüneburg Heath farmhouse
- 3 The Harz
- 4 Göttingen

DZT  
DEUTSCHE ZENTRUM  
FÜR TOURISMUS  
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## Soviets conceding little by returning to arms talks

Johns Hopkins University

At first glance it seems that the Russians have back-pedalled by agreeing to some arms talks.

In late autumn 1983, when the first US Pershing 2 missiles were stationed in Germany, Moscow broke off the Geneva talks saying it wouldn't return to the conference table until all US missiles had been withdrawn. Half the Pershings that were to be based in Western Europe have now been withdrawn. Yet the Soviet Union has agreed to resume talks. Does that mean the West is wrong?

In reality the breakdown of talks in Geneva has been worth Moscow's while. The Americans have had to pay a three-figure price to get Russia back to the conference table.

First, at Moscow's insistence, the new weapons by which President Reagan is such store are now to be included in the agenda.

Second, talks on long-range intercontinental and medium-range intermediate missile systems are to be held under the same banner which is also what Russia wanted. Third, this merger of the two rounds of talks is bound to increase pressure on Britain and France to stop opposing the inclusion of their nuclear deterrents in any agreement.

The United States and the West can claim to have had one success: the Soviet Union seems reluctantly to be coming to terms with the stationing of medium-range missiles in Europe.

But Mr Gromyko has not yet entirely put the go-ahead. After his Geneva talks with Mr Shultz he warned, although not so forebodingly, against continuing with the missile build-up and with President Reagan's Star Wars programme, the Strategic Defence Initiative.

This may be seen as the first step in setting up a fresh obstacle. One of these days Soviet leaders could refer to it, claiming their warships had not been headed into imposing a further break in arms control.

There will be innumerable opportunities of doing so. What the two Foreign Ministers have embarked on is one of the greatest and most complicated assignments diplomacy has ever faced.

It is roughly as though three teams of mountaineers were setting out simultaneously to scale the three highest peaks in the Himalayas.

In addition to the other difficulties they face, the three teams must also abide by the requirement of climbing at the same time and reaching their respective summits at the same time.

Three sets of problems, each of which is difficult enough on its own, are to be discussed in parallel. They are space weapons,

intercontinental weapons and medium-range missiles.

If the summit is scaled and terms are agreed in respect of any one of the three, a treaty is not to be promptly signed. The three sets of issues are to be interlinked.

The idea behind linkage seems to be that tactical moves in one sector might be used as a means of exerting pressure in another.

The Soviet Union is particularly keen on this idea. It no doubt suspects the United States of having no intention of making concessions on space weapons. If it fails to do so, Moscow will call a halt to talks on the other issues.

None but wild optimists can welcome this procedure or imagine that reciprocal pressure might improve matters. A much likelier outcome is, sad to say, that this complexity of the negotiations will lead to the entire process repeatedly grinding to a halt due to interlinking blockages.

If mountaineers were to be prevented in this way from ever reaching their summit, they would need to be chained together acrobatically.

This linkage is clearly due to Soviet anxiety about US government plans to set up a comprehensive system of space defences capable of knocking out every Soviet missile as soon as it is launched.

The situation is paradoxical, with more and more Americans by the month warning Washington the entire SDI is an illusion.

Yet the Soviet leaders are undeterred. They seem to be firmly convinced that President Reagan's concept needs to be taken seriously.

A Russian proverb has it that the Germans discovered the monkey, meaning that if anyone had discovered the impossible, then it would surely have been the Germans.

Russians today feel the Americans might be capable of anything.

One Soviet nightmare seems to be that the United States could some day be able to provide America and its allies with total protection from attack.

The Soviet leaders are bound in the circumstances to see President Reagan offering to supply the Soviet Union with the same defence system as an unsightly bluff.

They themselves would never even dream of making the United States any



### Soviet delegation in Bonn

Capitalism at work: Chancellor Kohl (right) with Alexei Antonov, a Soviet deputy Prime Minister and leader of a Soviet trade delegation to Bonn. (Photo: dpa)

## Reagan is back for more with plus marks

President Reagan, now installed for his second term in the White House, is the man who gave the Americans back their political self-confidence.

He has fulfilled many of the campaign promises he made four years ago - even though virtually no-one expected him to succeed.

His economic policy, derisively called Reagonomics by his critics, has been a success, triggering a recovery that strengthened the dollar and created new jobs.

These new jobs have taken the edge off criticism of his drastic cuts in welfare spending.

Higher tax revenue could possibly help to offset the appalling budget deficit President Reagan has carried over into his second term.

He has been lucky, starting with the return of the Tehran embassy hostages when he was first sworn in, which was not his doing but that of his unlucky predecessor, Jimmy Carter.

President Reagan escaped an assassination bid, too: seriously injured but still alive.

He went ahead with Nato missile deployment in Europe and dispayed pundits who forecast the beginning of a political ice age and an era in which the superpowers would not be on speaking terms with each other.

Faced with the alternative of a costly technological race with an America resolved to achieve its objectives, the Soviet Union came out of its sulks and said it was ready to resume negotiations.

The talks with Moscow will be long and tough, but they do present an opportunity of reducing all nuclear weapons.

President Reagan would like to replace the balance of terror, or fear of nuclear

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## WORLD AFFAIRS

## Hopeful signs in the Middle East

Israel has started to withdraw from southern Lebanon. Egypt and Israel have resumed talks. Egypt and Jordan are reconciled. So are Jordan and the PLO.

With America and Russia agreeing to include the Middle East in talks they are shortly to resume, there would seem to be hopes of progress toward peace in the region this year.

Changes there have undeniably been, but they are like a screen behind which the real problems remain unsolved.

The Israeli withdrawal is essential if the Lebanese are to be given another opportunity of running their own country. But how real is this opportunity?

The Syrians have yet to even consider withdrawing from Lebanon as the Israelis have done; they are staying put as an occupying power.

And will the Lebanese Army succeed in guaranteeing in the south of the country the peace and quiet Israel needs if it is to safeguard its northern border?

Given the relentless feuds between the various communities in Lebanon, this seems an extremely doubtful proposition.

Israeli forces invaded Lebanon in June 1982 with the declared aim of "peace for Galilee." They succeeded in defeating the PLO and routing what was left of its units, but not in establishing peace.

They are now abandoning the operation largely because of growing domestic pressure. The hundreds of soldiers killed and hundreds of millions of dollars the occupation has cost have come to be seen as an almost intolerable burden on Israel and its people.

Yet Israelis in northern Galilee are already upset, fearing they may soon have to seek the safety of air raid shelters as rockets and grenades pound their towns and villages again.

If these raids are resumed from Lebanon, Israel has reserved the right to hit back, and the mere fact that a fresh invasion of Lebanon is expressly envisaged as a contingency amply shows how fragile the present arrangement is.

Cairo broke off ties with Jerusalem on account of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Delegations are now to meet again.

This may indicate an improvement in the icy climate of ties between two countries that were the first in the Middle East to make peace with each other. But it need be no more.

They are to discuss a small strip of land only a square kilometre in size on the Gulf of Aqaba that the Israelis failed to return to Egypt when they withdrew from Sinai.

They have yet to agree to discuss the crucial issue of autonomy for Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Jerusalem, especially Prime Minister Peres, who is a more flexible tactician than his predecessors Mr Begin and Mr Shamir, is unlikely to see any real prospect of making greater headway with Cairo on this issue.

So the more circumspect Israelis are banking more on King Hussein of Jordan, who is constantly being invited to attend talks.

It would be rash to hope the reconciliation

between erstwhile arch-enemies King Hussein and PLO leader Yasser Arafat might have been in answer to these invitations.

The same applies to expectations that the Jordanian and PLO leaders might soon attempt, despite pressure exerted by the Syrians and the Palestinian extremists they control, to negotiate a peace settlement with Israel.

As long as Mr Arafat continues to laud armed struggle against Israel as the only realistic course of action, Israel rightly refuses to believe the more peaceful statements he makes on other occasions.

And as long as Israel continues to set up new Jewish settlements in the West Bank, the Arabs are not going to believe it when it says everything other than Jerusalem is negotiable.

Threats by the one side and creeping annexation by the other merely make both revert even more obdurately to positions of old.

Conciliatory gestures by the Turkish Cypriots had indicated that tens of thousands of Greek Cypriot refugees might be allowed to return.

These hopes have now been dashed, at least for the time being, by the inability of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders to reach agreement.

Even with Egyptian backing King Hussein is unlikely to feel emboldened to run the risk of a rapprochement with Israel as long as he lacks the PLO's explicit approval.

Tough Jordanian demands are more likely to find their way into the negotiating position taken up by Cairo once (and always assuming) its talks with Jerusalem and the Turkish Cypriot administration get round to Palestinian autonomy again.

No one need expect miracles in the Holy Land to result from Washington and Moscow having agreed to discuss the Middle East.

First, they have agreed only to discuss matters, not to negotiate. Second, they could mean the Gulf War between Iran and Iraq rather than Israel and the Arabs.

Third and last, both superpowers have so many interests of their own in the region that they will be hard to reconcile with the interests of the many parties to the conflict.

The Americans, even though they are Israel's protecting power, continue to see themselves solely as potential providers of the services of an honest broker.

The Russians, as self-proclaimed protectors of the Arab countries, have had no compunction in continuing to weave their web in the Middle East, even regaining a diplomatic foothold in Egypt.

Besides, talks between America and Russia in the Middle East would not be anything sensational new. They were covertly held during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, neither superpower wanting to be involved in the fighting.

Changes in the Middle East may foster hopes of real progress toward peace. But countries not directly involved in the disputes will bâve to count themselves lucky if there is no fresh round of fighting in this crisis-torn region.

So the scene seemed to have been set for agreement on the groundwork for fresh talks between the two sides in Cyprus, and the outlook for the New York summit seemed to be fairly good.

But before the four days of talks even began, the Greek Cypriots were voicing doubts that contrasted with the note of cautious optimism sounded by the UN secretary-general and the Turkish Cypriots.

Was it just scepticism or was it part of the Greek Cypriots' negotiating strategy? Did Mr Kyprianou, with his reputation for hesitating, want to avoid achieving specific results?

How, indeed, was it that the two sides were able to arrive in New York for the talks under totally different assumptions?

Mr Denktaş imagined he had only to sign a treaty drawn up under UN auspices that he had already accepted, leaving bi-zonal commissions that had yet to be set up to work out further details.

Mr Kyprianou regarded the draft as a phantom document that didn't really ex-

## Breakdown of Cyprus talks hits refugees hard

## General-Anzeiger

Nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriot refugees will probably be the most disappointed at the failure of the Cypriot summit in New York.

They have been waiting, some in makeshift camps, for over a decade to return to homes they were forced to leave when Turkey occupied the north of the island in 1974.

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ist and called for fresh talks on all points.

Did the two men spend four days entirely at cross-purposes?

Did Mr Perez de Cuello, one of the two men to draw up a treaty draft, see that the two sides had an opportunity but to be regarded as non-existent?

His optimistic statement that the two sides had been so narrow certainly had a ghost-like ring in the context of what seemed far apart as ever. Mr Denktaş has yet to say he is prepared to further UN bids to reach a settlement.

Even if some statements made in the wake of the debacle must be classed as political poker bids, an opportunity definitely missed in New York. It is to be seen whether, as Turkey says, this is a historic one.

Herbeltz, *General-Anzeiger*, Bonn, 22 January

## HOME AFFAIRS

## International reverberations as Greens develop a sound electoral base

Strategists among the West German Greens believe that their party is the forerunner to an international movement of ecology parties. They think that a movement will be founded in the turn of the century.

Already, the German Greens are between the two sides in Cyprus been no narrow certainly had a ghost-like ring in the context of what seemed far apart as ever. Mr Denktaş has yet to say he is prepared to further UN bids to reach a settlement.

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holds the balance of power, and is even finding it difficult to ensure its parliamentary existence.

Speculations about a "fourth party" towards the end of the 1970s were buried once and for all.

Much to the delight of the CDU the fourth party did not turn out to be a national CSU led by Franz Josef Strauss.

The Greens have brought about a change in the national movement in this country. In the 1980 general election, they received DM 715,000 from the state, an amount which allowed the party to canvass for the direct elections to the European Parliament in 1979.

DM 4.8 million from that campaign paved the way for the setting-up of the "Green party" at federal level in 1980.

The Greens, who are certainly not spoilt in terms of party donations, still depend to a large degree on the money allotted after an election campaign.

The style of Green politics has changed since the party began moving into the various parliaments.

In its early days, the party tried to attract attention to itself via campaigns and sometimes sensational revelations at regional and local level.

The generally concentrated on uncovering environmental scandals.

This approach was soon followed by calls for tax boycotts to protest against rising arms spending or by solidarity declarations for Polish trade unionists and imprisoned German terrorists.

In the state parliaments, to begin with in Bremen and Baden-Württemberg, the newly elected representatives of the Greens look advantage of their ability to initiate legislation.

However, so far this party has only played a marginal role in elections.

The state must share some of the responsibility for the fact that the Greens adopted party status.

The five-per-cent barrier welded together the different currents of thought within the new party.

The relationship between the Greens and the SPD was a difficult one right from the start, a real love-hate relationship.

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UNCTAD, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, is in the throes of crisis at the top.

Gamani Corea of Sri Lanka, Unctad secretary-general for 11 years, was sacked without notice at the end of last year.

A successor has yet to be found, and Unctad is temporarily being run by its No. 3, Alastair McIntyre of Grenada, who was given preference over Corea's immediate deputy, Jan Pronck of the Netherlands.

A wide range of motives lie behind this strange personnel policy pursued by the UN secretariat-general in New York.

Over the years Mr Corea increasingly irritated Western governments. The United States in particular grew steadily more critical of Unctad policy. Unctad was set up in 1964 at the developing countries' behest, and Washington has indirectly threatened to pull out.

Legally the position is complicated inasmuch as Unctad is not, strictly speaking, an independent organisation. It is merely a UN standing conference with its own secretariat, which currently has a staff of about 500.

That was the compromise to which the Third World agreed over 20 years ago after originally trying to set up a new world trade organisation in Geneva.

So no-one can resign from Unctad without quitting the UN at the same time. But practical cooperation can be terminated and a country can ignore any agreements reached.

Why does Unctad go so against America's grain? Mr Corea can certainly not be accused of anti-Western extremism. He belongs to a leading Sri Lankan family that has close ties with the present Conservative government in Colombo.

He is a British-educated gentleman whose one overriding passion is golf. He is not given to revolutionary ideas and is most unlikely to feel at all sympathetic toward communism.

All he could be accused of is weak management. He didn't feel at home in the diplomatic battlefield of the Unctad conference held every three or four years and the many special sessions.

He preferred to dig in as secretary-general and conveyed this impression in dialogues with his immediate associates too.

At Unctad 1 in 1964 the newly independent Afro-Asian countries joined forces with Latin America in trying to set up a New International Economic Order.

That, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade set up by the Western industrialised nations, narrowly averted collapse by opening up to the developing countries.

Raul Prebisch from Argentina, who became the first Unctad secretary-general, stood for the Third World's aims.

His successor, Manuel Perez Guerrero of Venezuela, created a feeble impression and Gamani Corea initially put more pep into Unctad before he was forced to capitulate to the realities.

His stewardship coincided with a period of international economic recession in which the industrialised countries were even less prepared than they had previously been to make concessions to the developing world.

One idea that was shelved during this period was the Common Fund envisaged as buying buffer stocks to stabilise commodity prices and ensure they covered production costs.

Later Unctad conferences constantly

## ■ UN ORGANISATIONS

### Unctad in a crisis as top official is dismissed

Frankfurter Rundschau

reiterated old arguments and failed to make any real headway.

Corea was worn out between the fronts and his departure seemed only a matter of time. Yet the shabby way in which he was sacked still came as a surprise.

Just before Christmas he was informed in a letter from UN secretary-general Perez de Cuellar that his contract, which was to expire at the end of December, would not be renewed. Corea had at least expected a few months' notice in which to prepare for the handover.

"I can look back without anger and with some sadness," he says, in private of course. He plans to take a year's break, then decide what to do next.

He seems to have no worries about who is to succeed him. "Unctad," he generously says, "would be in good

hands run by any of the people whose names have been mentioned."

The ideal candidate would be Bernard Chidzero, Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs and Planning in Zimbabwe. He knows his Unctad, having worked for years as an Unctad official.

The developing countries look on him as one of their own. The industrialised states respect his balanced judgement. But he is not available.

Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Robert Mugabe, announced in mid-December that "Super-Minister" Chidzero was indispensable back home.

Alastair McIntyre, who is currently in charge of Unctad, was in line for Prime Minister of Grenada last year.

After the US military intervention on the Caribbean island the search was on for a local man with a clean political record as head of government.

The headhunters hit on the high-ranking Unctad official with his milk coffee-coloured complexion and Grenadian passport.

McIntyre initially showed interest

and flew to New York to ask the UN se-

cretary-general to temporarily him of his Unctad job in Geneva.

But eventually he decided the Grenadian Prime Minister by far as safe a as a top UN appointment. Sudden was seriously ill, only to reappear large as life in Geneva a few weeks.

There are no promising alternatives, so he stands a very chance of being formally confirmed before long as Unctad secretary-general.

Corea's No. 2, Jan Pronck, a Dutch Social Democrat and keen supporter of the developing countries' interest Unctad, fell into disfavour on account of his idealism.

Both Western European and EEC governments felt his "united advocacy" of interests other than of his own country was somewhat suspicious. The Americans even see him as the advocate of civil ideologies of

instance the Euro-budget will raise various questions. There is the clash between the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers.

The Third World would sooner someone from the southern hemisphere at the top. It points out that all other international economic bodies are headed by Westerners: the World Bank by American, the IMF by a Frenchman, Gatt by a Swiss.

Pronck is felt to be planning to the consequences of returning to domestic politics.

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Pierre Simonet  
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 January)

### A mild rebuke for Unesco or maybe not

of Unesco and for the Federal Republic's future within it, is similarly anything but an ultimatum.

Herr Genscher couched his four-point criticism of Unesco in terms that, if anything, too restrained, in referring to "an unacceptable degree of alienation" in Unesco activities he seems to have had quantitative, not qualitative shortcomings in mind.

That could easily be brought about. All that is needed is for the executive committee to be required to make two major recommendations to the general conference subject to approval by a high quorum.

It would be enough for the general conference only to be authorised to accept the budget estimates or the programme of Unesco activities once it has been approved by an 85 per cent majority on the executive committee.

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Yet even though this idea is a frequent topic of conversation within Unesco and especially among the delegations of industrialised countries whose views are regularly overridden by majority decisions, Herr Genscher made no mention of it whatever.

He also says the consensus principle needs to be adopted in budget decisions and voting too. But he fails to mention the most straightforward means of ensuring it is adopted: a qualified majority of 85 per cent on the executive committee.

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## ■ TRADE

## Russians want 'tomorrow's technology' from West

### Handelsblatt WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZZEITUNG

Russia wants tomorrow's technology from the West, not today's or yesterday's, it was announced at the thirteenth meeting of the West German-Soviet economic commission in Bonn.

The Russians are interested in increasing contacts with West German small to medium-sized firms.

It was agreed to make the agriculture sector the main point of the next commission meeting so as to improve trade contacts for these small and medium-sized companies with the Soviet Union.

The recent meeting concentrated on the chemicals industry. The Russians also asked that the economic use of resources should also be discussed.

The Russian delegation, led by Alexei Antonov, the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, was keen to get to know how West Germany had got along with energy saving measures.

The future of the West German-Soviet economic agreement was also discussed.

Antonov, and the head of the West German delegation, Economic Affairs Minister Marie Bangemann, both presented a review of economic development in their respective countries.

Details were given to Minister Bangemann, and representatives of West German trade and industry such as the president of the Standing Conference of

German Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Otto Wolff von Amerongen and Krupp executive Berthold Beitz, at first hand the details of the next Soviet five-year plan which is being drawn up currently in Moscow.

It was not expected that concrete decisions would be made at the Bonn meeting. According to experts, however, West German companies are in the running for contracts worth billions that will be discussed with industry representatives at meetings in various West German cities in the immediate future.

It has been reported that West German companies are having discussions with the Russians over projects that are valued at DM18 billion to be concluded between 1986 and 1990.

While on the West German side there was a hope of talks on barter deals, the Russians concentrated on the Cocom list of restrictions on high technology exports to the East Bloc on defence grounds.

The Russians say this list is a hindrance to extending trade relations. The Russians want to buy Western technology of "tomorrow" and not of yesterday or even today.

The West Germans spoke of the list as "a family affair" which could not be negotiated with the Russians.

Antonov had political talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Affairs Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

On Wednesday the Soviet delegation begins a series of visits to companies in various cities in West Germany.

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 22 January 1985)



Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe with Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Martin Bangemann in Tokyo.

## Record surplus year, except in business with Japan

West German foreign trade surpluses climbed to new heights in 1984. But there was a record deficit with Japan. There are a series of reasons for this.

Martin Bangemann, West German Economic Affairs Minister, has said in Japan that German industry is confident and self-assured.

He told the Japanese Prime Minister, Yosuke Nakasone, that there was no more of the "German disease".

Herr Bangemann referred to surveys saying that West German technology matched anything in the world. There

was no need to feel inferior in the face of Japanese competition.

West German exports to Japan between January and October last rose 26 per cent. But the deficit DM9.3 billion, was higher in the first months than it had been in the whole of 1983, itself a record deficit year.

Japanese exports rose even steeper, however. West German exports to Japan last year were DM5.2 billion, but Japanese exports to West Germany were more than two and a half greater at DM14.92 billion.

The West German delegation in Tokyo did not see this imbalance as a major problem. Unlike countries France and the USA, stubbornly to bilateralism, adjusting the terms of trade with Japan.

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## East Bloc deals: Cocom's blacklist tightened up

cluded in the export list, but the goods now need an export licence.

The appropriate trade office at Eschborn will in future examine licence applications for the export of electronic equipment according to additional criteria that are given in great detail against each entry.

This office is also responsible for export applications for plant that is not included in the embargo list. The office will have the decisive say on a licence application for a computer to be used for plant, for a steelworks or an automated bakery, say, and will decide if it is to be used only for these purposes, or whether the computer could be diverted for East Bloc military purposes.

The adjustments involving electronic components with detailed descriptions for the construction of uranium enrichment plant, equipment for superalleys on the basis of cobalt and nickel (for the manufacture of turbine blades) aluminium alloys with high tensile strength, certain steel molybdenum alloying or starting materials, ceramics, and ceramic composite material for the production of high-temperature compressed ceramic products for particular technical purposes.

These changes will become national legislation in the Federal Republic during the year when the new text has been translated and the Cocom list of numbering has been adjusted to the West German foreign trade statistics numbering system.

Extensions, deletions or new descriptions of the various entries will, as usual, become effective at law by changing the expert list of foreign trade regulations.

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## ■ INDUSTRY

## Changing faces of arms manufacturers

Ironworks, munitions factories and shipyards were once this country's greatest armaments manufacturers. Names like Krupp or Blohm + Voss were synonymous with guns and dreadnoughts.

Things have changed in the age of electronically controlled war with guided missiles, rockets and supersonic aircraft.

This new weapons industry is now heavily concentrated in and around Munich.

It is revealing no secret to say, for instance, that the aviation and aerospace concern, Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm, has become far and away the largest armaments manufacturer in this country, and one of the most active in Europe, with involvement all over the world.

This has meant that in many post-war conflicts, weapons with components made in West Germany have been used.

But MBB, a relatively newcomer, is only the most prominent of these manufacturers.

There are other, older names: Dornier, Krauss-Maffei, Siemens (although only a small part is involved in armaments), Motoren- und Turbinen-Union (formerly BMW aircraft engine producers), one of the most important European manufacturers of aircraft engines, and a big list of small-to-medium-sized companies.

A domestic armaments industry is part of defence and peace policies for a modern industrialised state such as the Federal Republic. This raises the question of how the industry could be structured for maximum efficiency.

A major issue here concerns whether and to whom Krauss-Maffei, part of the Flick concern, should be sold.

Krauss-Maffei is the most important heavy tank manufacturer for the West German army (and a few other armies as well), mainly because of the *Leopard* tank.

MBB is the most likely buyer. This is a solution vehemently supported by the state of Bavaria mainly because it would mean retaining jobs in Munich in the armaments, aviation and space industries.

But the Bonn Defence Ministry is worried that a sale to MBB might concentrate the industry too much.

It sees a risk in allowing an ever-increasing part of the armaments industry will be falling into the hands of one maker.

The Monopolies Commission also has doubts. It fears that MBB will become too strong.

No direct MBB participation in Krauss-Maffei was proposed in plans recently revealed.

It was suggested a 50-per-cent subsidiary formed by the Bavarian Landesanstalt für Aufbaufinanzierung, the Bayerische Vereins Bank and the Dresdner Bank should act as purchasers — that is banking institutions, would have a participation in MBB.

In Ottobrunn no secret is made of the fact that even in this arrangement considerable influence on Krauss-Maffei affairs would be exercised via the back door.

This raises the question as to whether it would not be a better solution to have a direct participation.

But is it so risky having such a concen-

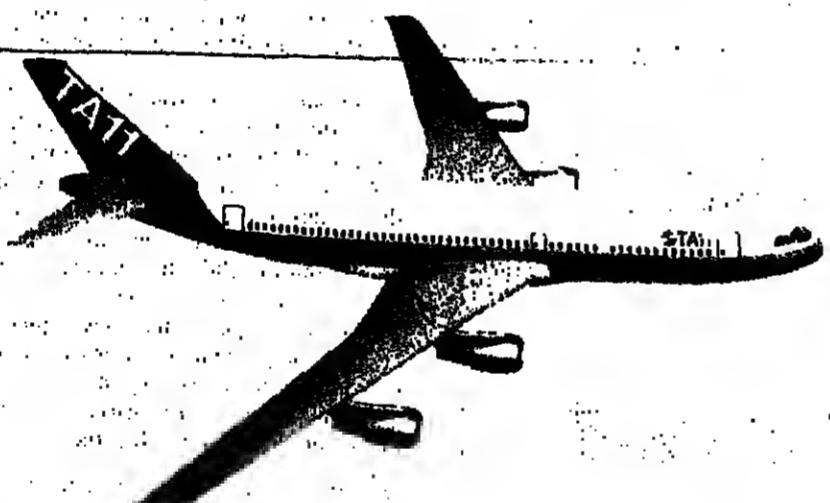
tration of power? In West Germany the whole of the armaments industry only accounts for between two and two and a half per cent of the total manufacture of finished products, there are only a few companies but the concentration is quite normal.

MBB reports that 60 per cent of the concern's turnover of DM5.6 billion is achieved from armaments. That includes being the lead in important programmes — the *Tornado* fighter, at the moment, the largest procurement programme in the Federal Republic, the helicopter gunships, various types and generations of guided missiles, and recently, the largest ever naval contract and in the foreseeable future possibly the construction of tanks (in a roundabout way).

Armaments contracts are no longer given out by the manufacturers' own country. Competition is international. Without doubt West German procurement policies will in the future ensure that as much as possible top technology will be retained in the country and used. That requires partners who are advanced technically and strong economically. But competition is also needed.

In the preliminary talks about Krauss-Maffei there was talk of "an armaments Moloch". MBB is certainly not an entangling power of this sort. Management in Ottobrunn would do well to save their energies trying to gather more and more power to themselves and where possible to increase their armaments exports. Policies must be kept paramount.

Volker Wörl  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 21 January 1985)



On the drawing boards with MBB, a member of the Airbus Industrie consortium: the TA11 Airbus planned to have a range of 12,000 kilometres (more than 7,000 miles).



The Leopard 2 heavy tank is used by many armed forces. It is built by Krauss-Maffei.

## Some hiccups, but aerospace is feeling optimistic

### RHEINISCHER MERKUR

West Germany's largest aviation and aerospace concern, Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB), of Munich, had a nominal increase in turnover last year of 3.5 per cent to almost DM5.9 billion.

In real terms, however, turnover dropped by between two and three per cent.

Armaments accounted for 59 per cent of this turnover, up from 56 per cent.

The company predicted a turnover for 1984 of DM5.8 billion, a drop of six per cent. Growth is not expected until 1987 when important communications programmes begin.

MBB has been able to capture contracts involving the three most important projects of the immediate future, the Airbus A320; the fighter aircraft to succeed the multi-purpose *Tornado*; and the PAH-2 helicopter gunship, a joint project with France.

MBB will have no problem using its full aircraft production capacity.

The most difficult problem are sales by subsidiary Deutsche Airbus GmbH. It is not consolidated into MBB.

Although 355 A300s and A310s aircrafts have been sold, the plant is working short-time and layoffs will be unavoidable. There are 24 unsold aircraft standing in the hangars.

The second largest company in the sector, the Dornier Group, is owned by the

German scientists have been offered the chance of taking part in a space mission to investigate a remote comet.

Next, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, plans to send its Mariner Mark II space probe in 1990.

It is intended to fly past one or two comets before reaching Kopff's comet early 1994.

The probe will follow the comet for only three years as it orbits the Sun, as close as within 30 kilometres at one stage.

It will accompany the comet both before and after its perihelion, the point at which it is nearest to the Sun, to collect a projectile at it to record data.

The dark-like projectile, or penetrator, is intended to relay the first direct measurements from a celestial body.

It is currently envisaged as a "dirty bomb" several kilometres in diameter.

In the coming year turnover should increase to DM1.7 billion, from a production of DM1.5 billion.

A drop in turnover and costs for the Max Planck Institute and an increase of the DO 228 budget about a fall in Dornier profits last year.

Nevertheless Dornier profits were shown keen interest in the comet rendezvous project," says Hermann Ulrich Schmidt of the Max Planck Institute in Garching, near Munich.

Taking the balance amount of 100 million and including clients' payments paid capital for 1983 was good several per cent, and in MBB's own capital increased from eleven to twelve per cent.

MBB's capital position has been considerably improved by the decision to increase this from DM222 million to DM600 million.

The general increase in economic activity in 1983 did not have any direct influence on the aviation and aerospace industry.

The sector increased turnover in 1982 by 10.5 per cent to DM12.7 billion. Of this 49 per cent was accounted for by exports.

In 1983 there was an increase of 10 per cent to DM13.1 billion. In research after the European Giotto mission the business stagnated, however, the flypast of Halley's comet.

No room for expansion is available, mainly because of high interest rates and poor orderbook positions.

It was supplied by the Max Planck Institute.

The Halley project is a space capsule scheduled to fly as close as possible past the nucleus of Halley's comet at 100 times the speed of a bullet.

Kopff's comet was named in 1906 after Heidelberg astronomer who discovered it, August Kopff, 1888-1960. It has been in the Sun six and a half years.

It has so far been observed by astronomers 12 times at its perihelion, the exception being 1912.

The industry is up to date technically.

Allocations for research and development account on average for 20 per cent of turnover, as opposed to three per cent in the processing industry.

The industry expects that for the coming year capacity use will be about the same as the previous year. In some sectors it will improve.

The federal government's decision to give support for the construction of a new Airbus A320 and the decision to ahead with the aircraft to succeed the *Tornado* has given the industry reason to be optimistic in the long term.

On the 222nd day it could take a look at Namsqua, an asteroid 140 km in diameter, then, 140 days later, Lucia, diameter 85 km.

On the 302nd day its option would be to take a look at Tanete, diameter

### RESEARCH

## German scientists offered place in NASA comet rendezvous probe

stronger solar radiation heating the comet's surface.

In the process fugitive components evaporate and dust particles are released. At this stage the probe is to be kept well clear and behind the comet and the increasingly dense cloud of dust and gas particles it emits.

From this location scientists hope to observe for the first time how a comet "comes to life." Which particles are emitted first and how? As jets, for instance?

How are particles of lifeless matter gradually transformed into an active body shrouded in a gigantic cloud of gas and shedding a tail millions of kilometres long and consisting of electrically charged particles (ions), molecules, gas and dust particles?

On 2 July 1996 Kopff's comet will come within 240 million kilometres of the Sun. It will shine brightly, to an estimated eighth degree, and shed substantial quantities of dust and gas particles.

It should be readily observable from Earth. So measurements taken by the space probe can be compared with readings taken at ground stations.

The probe will continue to keep the comet under observation as it moves further away from the Sun. As currently planned, the mission will be completed on 2 December 1996, or at the latest when it runs out of fuel and no further manoeuvres can be undertaken.

The CRAF, short for Comet Rendezvous Asteroid Flyby, is to be the first housed in a Mariner Mark II capsule.

The Mark II will consist largely of tried and trusted components used in past US space probes and can be assembled in building-block fashion to meet mission requirements.

So the probe could be custom built for further missions to Jupiter or Saturn, say, and the United States has offered to allow the Federal Republic of Germany to use German-designed motor to power one or several Mariner capsules.

It will need to be a motor capable of functioning on all three space axes. It has yet to be put through its paces and will probably be given an opportunity of doing so in 1986.

Nothing would indicate that the Greens would alter their tactics in the event of a new arrangement with the SPD.

This would put the leader of the SPD in Hesse, Holger Börner, who is already reputed to be seriously considering the idea of a grand coalition with the CDU, in a tight spot.

The SPD is still afraid that any signs of serious coalition discussions with the CDU would frighten off its left-wing voters.

In addition, many SPD members would lose their ministerial posts if the CDU were to become a coalition partner.

For federal-policy reasons, the FDP is out of the question, leaving only the CDU.

Although the situation in Hesse is still far from being a dead-end situation, Börner is going to need the CDU to achieve a long overdue stable government majority.

Ekkehard Kohrs

[General-Anzeiger Bonn, 17 January 1985]

Next year, as part of the Galileo project, a joint US-German space probe will move into orbit round Jupiter and be kept on standby for further manoeuvres.

In return for the propulsion unit the United States is offering German scientists a share in measuring equipment or space for measuring equipment of their own on board the comet probe.

Ten experiments with a combined payload of 125kg are envisaged on board the capsule bound for Kopff's comet. Including fuel the capsule will weigh 2.5 tonnes in all.

The mission is expected to cost about \$300m at current prices and the Americans expect Germany to pay a fair share of the costs.

Manfred Osterbein of the space research department at the Bonn Research and Technology Ministry sounds a confident note.

"In view of the keen interest in the comet mission shown by German scientists," he says, "we are now trying to make sure funds will be available."

Eugen Hünches  
(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 13 January 1985)

## Bonn to join in manned space platform project

### Frankfurter Rundschau

Bonn and other European governments are to join forces with the United States in a billion-dollar manned space platform project.

The German government will be honouring a pledge Chancellor Kohl made to President Reagan when he visited the United States last June.

Between 1985 and 1995 about DM4.4bn in taxpayers' money will be earmarked for space projects by the Bonn Ministry of Research and Technology.

Participation in the space platform project is controversial, mainly because the benefits are hard to assess. But Heinz Riesenhuber, CDU, the Bonn Research Minister, is enthusiastic.

He has visions of a space laboratory where new materials can be produced and a space workshop where satellites can be repaired.

Experts disagree on whether only a manned platform can carry out this work or an unmanned one might be equally satisfactory.

Bonn has been guided in its decision less by scientific arguments than by the Chancellor's pledge to the US President.

A point that has yet to be settled is whether Bonn and its European partners will succeed in persuading the Americans to give them unlimited access to mission research findings in return for their contribution toward the project.

No agreement has been reached on this aspect, but Bonn has luckily allowed itself a loophole. After a two-year preparatory phase it will review the terms of project cooperation at the end of 1986.

Only then will it give the final go-ahead for German participation in the mission as a whole.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 January 1985)

## ■ THE CINEMA

## Imagination, confidence and a variety of screen accents at festival

This year's Saarbrücken film festival was held in cold, wet weather against a background of grey snow. It was the fifth at which the Max Ophüls Prize for the best German-language production by a young film-maker was awarded.

Ophüls, the legendary German film director, was born and bred in the city. So his name was a natural choice for the award.

There is a life-size plaster figure of him seated in a characteristic pose at a Saarbrücken film cafe that is also named after him.

The public response was keen this year, with more festival filmgoers in two days, than throughout the 1984 programme.

This interest was no coincidence. It was in response to the above-average quality of the film fare provided. Work

### Hannoversche Allgemeine

It makes such uninhibited use of the full range of trivial clichés that one can but sigh when Christoph Eichhorn sighs on the screen, saying: "My God, how terrible fate can be!"

It could well prove a successful film, possibly being taken seriously by part of the audience and enjoyed as a satire by others.

The comedy in Milian Dor's *Malambo*, which won a prize in Mannheim last October, is more restrained and sad.

Dor, who has made a number of documentaries for Austrian TV, tells in poetic black-and-white images the tale of a provincial daydreamer who would like to make a name for himself as an escape artist like Houdini.

Oliver Hirsch's screen version of Büchner's *Wodzeck* has unmistakably tragic dimensions. He transposes Büchner's 19th century dramatic tale of the poor soldier to today's industrial Ruhr.

His *Wodzeck* works in an engineering factory. His Marleen is a sales assistant in a department store.

With unusual imagery and a mastery of colour he draws a convincing link between the classical drama and a modern tale of jealousy.

Seldom does one see such a convincing screen version of a work of literature.

*Raffi*, an Austrian entry directed by

### Who won what

The 1985 Max Ophüls Prize, including a cash award of DM20,000 by the city of Saarbrücken, went to *Raffi*, an Austrian film directed by Christian Berger. *Raffi* shared with another Austrian entry, *Malambo*, directed by Milian Dor, the DM2,000 award of the Interfilm jury. Other awards went to German film-maker Benno Trautmann for his film *Der Todespranger*, and to Helge Weindl as cameraman of another German film, Dominik Graf's *Treffer*. Saarbrücken Mayor Oskar Lafontaine's special award went to *Olle Henry*, the GDR entry directed by Ulrich Weiss.

screened in Saarbrücken was often of very high quality.

Austria and Switzerland were better represented than in the past. Between them they accounted for over the 30 odd films shown.

There were times when that created difficulties. Saarbrücken audiences had trouble with Swiss German dialect in particular.

But it was also an attraction. The unaccustomed dialect was not dubbed. It was allowed to speak for itself.

Young film-makers were imaginative and self-confident in their work, "young" in this context being a widening category.

There were experienced professionals who had worked for TV but only just made their first full-length cinema feature film. There were also genuine beginners — film academy graduates.

The range and variety were delightful and the professional character of first films was often impressive. TV was almost always a co-producer.

As for trends and tendencies, the emphasis seemed to be more on carefully observed everyday scenes than on dramatic construction. Straightforward tales were told unsentimentally.

There was no mistaking a keen sense of detail. Young directors are relying more on the effect of their film scenes than on explanatory dialogue.

They are also critically preoccupied with their medium, taking an ironic look at the reality of films.

Heiner Städler's *King Kong's Faust* is a successful case in point, dealing with



Milan Dor's comedy, *Malambo*, which employs poetic images to portray the day of a daydreamer, won the Interfilm panel prize at Mannheim. (Photo: Heinz Kerssen)

3 February 1985 - No. 1165



Max Ophüls . . . the inspiration

Christian Berger, proved a difficult

that took an unaccustomed look in

period-piece film. *Raffi* is a his

rebel leader Andreas Hofer in the

Berger paints with sophisticated

the portrait of a speechless, per-

outsider who becomes a victim of

and never realises what is hap-

his easy to find examples of this

the parallels between a kinder-

and an old people's home, evacu-

to the country and going on ferry

two buy-duty-free hunter.

The old people are looked after,

kind after well and badly, but they are

slightly taken seriously.

It is a great pity that only a fraction

the films shown will ever be gen-

reased. Many deserve it.

Peter Paul Hart

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 22 January)

## Strauss criticises German TV for not buying German films

### Frankfurter Neue Presse

**B**avarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss has called on German television to buy more German films.

Speaking at a film forum in Munich, he accused ARD, the first German channel, of spending money hand-over-fist in America.

*Schallod*, or Sound Death, is an intelligent and ironic play on the creative possibility of sound. It is a film that relies on sound in a very special way.

Marianne Schäfer's *Tränen in Florenz* (Tears in Florence) is a parody on kitsch, the tale of a melodramatic love affair between a German courtesan and an Italian contessa.

He said the money spent in America would have been better invested in Ger-

many: "Stimulating creativity in

German market would have been

meaningful," he said, "than the

commercial stimulus that has led to A-

can productions selling like

cakes."

Warmly applauded, he said

were in the offing between the do-

film and TV market, meaning

German and European produc-

international competition, by which

mainly meant American produc-

Public broadcasting corpora-

and private enterprise must

face the challenge. Battening down

hatches wouldn't work in the

term. He was strongly opposed to

it.

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### THE ARTS

## Old people's theatre group mixes self-expression with scepticism

### DER TAGESSPIEGEL

we are beautiful" jumping about on the stage needs not only irony but also self-assurance, for it is said by elderly people.

A heated discussion takes place at the periphery of the performance. How should they be called? Senior citizens, mature or elderly people or straightforward old people?

"Typical male," is the view taken of one young who did not help with the housework. His mother always said that she could do it better. "Typical female," he replied.

It is not professional theatre. There is some professionalism but that is not the point. The strength of the *Spätzlinger* is their identification with their roles through their personal experiences. The way they play gives the characters life and credibility.

They all have to work together so there is much discussion. It is not an amusement. They do not think of their troupe as an alternative to a coffee morning. The theatre group was not the lifeline that has saved them from passivity.

Actors have it easier, self-assured, almost militant, to come to terms with their age. Their activities, not their age, are the deciding factor. They have at least found a chance in the theatre that does not let them think that they have become superfluous. The group began four years ago with an advertisement in West Berlin newspapers: "Old people wanted for amateur theatricals group". Eva Bittner placed these advertisements. She was a student of drama who wanted to investigate if the theory about amateur theatricals that she had learned in her studies worked in practice.

Twenty-five people replied to the advertisement, from which the present group of thirteen women were sifted. There are no men among them, because experience has shown that they are not suited to this. Eva Bittner said: "The men do not want to act all the time, but play in the foreground." Everyone has to have enthusiasm for the theatre. Their motto is better late than never, when they begin to fulfill the dreams of their youth to go on the stage, dreams that were never achieved because of work or family. None of them have had any artistic training, with the exception of one woman.

They were all very much astonished when Eva Bittner suggested that they should not perform a play already written but write one of their own. Their lives are full of stories that would provide enough material for a stage piece.

They were sceptical at the beginning, but in the end they were all convinced they could do it.

They produced the action and the characters in their piece themselves, and they produced the sets and costumes.

They have now produced three plays for the theatre, each of which reflects their experiences — loneliness and assimilation in old age was the theme of the first piece in which they gained stage experience.

The second piece dealt with living conditions for old people and why they did not want to live in an old people's home.

Their last piece had the sub-title "Our contribution to relationships and fairytale research". Famous fairytale characters celebrate their re-awakening to fitness clinic. Time does not stand still. But Snow White is still endlessly busy looking at herself in a mirror. The Princess is still looking for the pea.

Have we then learned nothing? The question is directed to the spectators. The point here is that the fairytale characters are stereotypes for various women characters.

Then after the last laugh and the applause the actresses ask directly, what's your opinion then? The final discussion is almost as important as the performance itself.

Criticism or approval was directed mostly at what had been shown as the way things are on the stage.

"Typical male," is the view taken of one young who did not help with the housework. His mother always said that she could do it better. "Typical female," he replied.

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there is much discussion. It is not an amusement. They do not think of their troupe as an alternative to a coffee morning. The theatre group was not the lifeline that has saved them from passivity.

All the women worked in the professions until they reached retirement age, secretaries, saleswomen, teachers or as head of a wholesale store. They had plenty of interests beforehand, and self-assurance was not a foreign word for them. They have found a new lease on life in the theatre group, which they take just as seriously as they did their job.

They want to pass on to their public

the feeling for an exciting and stimulating life. Their message to old people is not to let themselves go during coffee outings. They maintain that there are other things to do, not necessarily just theatre.

Their public is not made up of just elderly people for young people are attracted to the *Spätzlinger*. These elderly ladies on the stage have something to say to them too.

Their public is not made up of just elderly people for young people are attracted to the *Spätzlinger*. These elderly ladies on the stage have something to say to them too.

For this reason people should begin in good time to develop interests. "When you are old no one will come to your door."

They do not lack for audiences. They have been invited on tour to other West German cities, only in West Berlin do they not create much of a stir. The protest goes unheard in his own land.

But there is no sign of that today. Only one hour is free between the performance and an interview on radio, where it was quickly decided which scenes should be shown, how the group should be introduced. The organisation was very professional.

Of course, they do have their problems. There is often illness among a group of their age, and the death of one actress created a gap that had to be filled. Tensions, that occur in any group, have to be dampened down.

And the cash that the West Berlin Senate makes available for Eva Bittner, their guide and mentor, is made available on the short-term and with difficulties.

After the performance a young man spontaneously said that his anxiety about growing old had diminished since he saw the *Spätzlinger*. One good reason why the show should continue.

Lutz Ehrlich  
Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 6 January 1985



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## ■ THE ENVIRONMENT

## The day the Ruhr choked in a blanket of smog

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Pollution became so heavy one weekend this month that a smog ban was called in the industrial Ruhr area.

In some parts, private motoring was even banned.

The weather was abysmal quite apart from the smog. Buses were still running. So were taxis. They had the streets to themselves.

It seemed odd that traffic lights continued to work even though there was scarcely any traffic to take any notice.

Some of the pedestrians, and there weren't many of them, wore makeshift masks.

Pharmacies did a brisk trade in gauze face masks at DM5.45 for a packet of five, although pharmacists say they aren't effective.

One masked pedestrian on Duisburg's Königstraße even lifted his mask every now and again to take a puff on his cigarette. But he was an exception to the rule.

Throughout the emergency it looked as though it would never really get light — not even on the few occasions when a few feeble rays of sunlight pierced the gloom.

No snow had fallen for a week, and snow that was left on the ground no longer looked white. But it was probably wrong to imagine that weather in the Ruhr was much worse than elsewhere.

Travelling by train from Düsseldorf to Duisburg there seemed to be no difference between one town and the next. Some passengers had coffee with them and others had clearly not used a train for a good few years.

One well-dressed lady in the picobian streetcar spent the entire time purring over the stock market reports in her financial newspaper.

The Ruhr has always squirmed under the reputation of being a place of dark, satanic mills. The smog emergency has given its self-confidence has taken yet another knock.

Ironically, the Ruhr regional authority was on the point of launching an expensive advertising campaign to counteract this longstanding prejudice.

"We're still alive," one leader-writer wrote in a local newspaper. "The Ruhr isn't a cemetery yet." But it was certainly quieter than usual.

For a time, while Stage Three was in force, industry had to shut down in many areas, especially heavy industry.

At Thyssen in Duisburg production at the coking plant was cut back by a quarter, while the steel furnaces reduced their output by 40 per cent.

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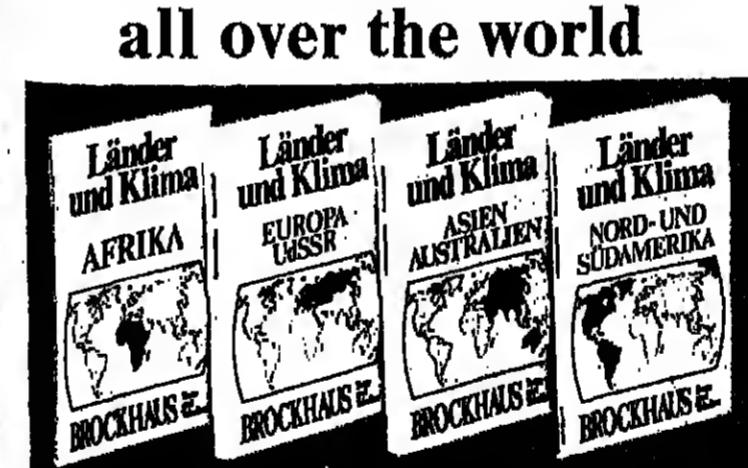
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## Meteorological stations all over the world



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## Rise in codeine addiction

Codeine, a drug widely used on its own and in compounds to treat coughs, can prove addictive, German pharmacists have been told.

Professor Hermann Roth, of Tübingen, told a refresher course held by their professional body in Davos, Switzerland, an increasing number of juveniles were becoming addicted to the drug.

Codeine, he said, could be converted into morphine in the body by a process known as biotransformation that in this case accounted for the addiction risk.

The process had in the past been felt to be of minor importance, but up to 40 per cent of codeine, he said, could be transformed into morphine in the body.

Cough preparations containing codeine were available on prescription only. Professor Roth said they should be prescribed only in exceptional cases.

He greatly regretted that health insurance funds no longer paid for minor drugs prescribed, such as cough drops and liniments.

The result was that doctors tended to prescribe major drugs, such as codeine and codeine compounds, for which the insurance continued to pay. *dpa*  
(Mannheimer Morgen, 15 January 1985)

## Allergy link with temper

People who suffer from allergies tend to be particularly hot-tempered, say Munich scientist Paul Matussek and colleagues at the Max Planck Society's psychopathology and psychotherapy research unit.

The doctor alone will seldom succeed in curing the pregnant alcoholic of her addiction. The best prospect of cure will be when he harnesses the entire welfare network, including clinics and self-help groups.

Care work in Sweden has shown that alcohol embryopathy can at least be reduced by combined efforts of this kind.

At Stockholm's four maternity clinics a team of eight social workers, a psychiatrist, a gynaecologist and a paediatrician are working on the problem.

The project, launched in 1980, seems to be proving effective. By 1983 there was not a single birth in the city that showed signs of alcohol embryopathy.

Silvia Schattenfroh  
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 January 1985)

## New theory about blood tests taken before breakfast

Patients who have blood samples taken for tests are generally asked not to eat breakfast beforehand. Food, they are told, could affect the blood results.

But latest findings indicate that most blood ratings, such as the enzyme count and the uric acid and cholesterol level, remain largely constant after meals, says a virologist.

Professor Claus-Dieter Bloedner of Bamberg, Coburg and Lichtenfels labour medicine centres makes this claim in an article in the latest issue of the medical journal *Fortschritte der Medizin* in.

Tests of over 1,000 patients showed only the triglyceride, or neutral fat,

count to increase substantially after food intake (and by up to 50 per cent after alcohol consumption).

In combination with overweight, lack of exercise and stress, a high triglyceride count often leads to blood vessel complaints and thus needs treatment.

The trouble with taking blood samples from patients with empty stomachs, he writes, is that ratings may be considered normal that later in the day increase to critical levels.

Morning levels are by no means typical, representing the values of night, when we neither eat nor drink.

*dpa*  
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 3 January 1985)

## ■ HORIZONS

## Row over pupils who smuggled an East German back to the West

**Hamburger Abendblatt**

**A** Marburg headmaster has changed his mind about an incident in which 13 pupils smuggled an East German across the border to West Germany on the bus bringing the class back from a trip to East Germany.

The headmaster, Klaus Teichler, had asked the parents of the pupils involved to keep their children away from the school. He said the episode had endangered everyone on the trip, not just the 13 directly concerned. In protest, three teachers refused to take the class again and a fourth applied to leave the school.

But now, 12 of the pupils are to be allowed back. The 13th, who got into trouble in an incident in East Germany, has decided to leave.

The row spread through the city of Marburg, which has a population of 70,000, including 15,000 university students; and among them, the affair took on an increasingly political character.

Some teachers and pupils oppose any action to help people flee East Germany.

Others fear the pupils' action might result in the school's not being allowed to send parties to East Germany again.

But the pupils of Landeshulme Steinmühle, a private gymnasium (high school), were unrepentant.

Teichler said initially the pupils' ac-

tion had destroyed the relationship of trust between school and parents and pupils.

A more conciliatory attitude towards the suspension might be taken if regret were expressed.

"Regret? Why regret?", asked one pupil involved, a 17-year-old doctor's daughter. "All we've done is help someone happy."

Another 17-year-old girl, the daughter of a building contractor, could not understand the sharp reaction of the headmaster any more than the other 38 pupils who made the trip.

She said: "We have apologised for the fact that pupils and teachers were placed in danger. But we can't do more than that."

Another pupil said: "It was a spontaneous decision to help. We just didn't see any danger in it."

On the 28th of December, the class visited Wartburg on the last day of its tour in East Germany.

When the 25-year-old would-be refugee saw the tour bus, he approached a group of pupils and said he wanted to go to the West.

So the 13 hatched a plan. As the class went off sight-seeing, one of the girls complained of stomach pains. She remained on the bus and, when the coast was clear, let the escapee in.

He was hidden in storage space behind the back seat and the back window and covered with coats and blankets.

At the border, the East German Volkspolizei (people's police) searched the bus but found nothing.

**E**veryone in the packed public gallery got their money's worth when the Donisl trial began in Munich.

Donisl was, until shut down last year, one of the trendiest places in Munich. It was founded in 1715 and developed a reputation as the place to go if you wanted a beer and Weisswurst in the wee small hours.

But now its reputation has changed a little. Police arrested the entire staff of 140 last year and have pressed charges that allege that for years, guests have been robbed, had their pockets picked after being fed knockout drops in their drinks, and defrauded in other ways. It is alleged that stops was regularly served up as beer.

One of the waiters was Rudolf Limmer, 40, who is charged with receiving stolen goods, aggravated robbery, gang robbery, causing bodily injury and fraud.

Herr Limmer is hardly one of the more refined members of gastronomic circles and his choice of language lent the proceedings colour.

In the witness box, he attacked his former colleagues and customers with such boundless enthusiasm and descriptive jargon that the presiding judge felt compelled to interrupt: "Please! We're not at Donisl's now, you know."

Limmer says the charges are a load of rubbish and he had nothing to do with the alleged happenings. He is one of the main accused but swears innocence "by God and all my worldly possessions."

With an income of 5,000 marks a month including tips he had no need to get up to dirty tricks.

He did not dispute that some not very nice things had been happening at Donisl's.

But no wonder! Look at the guests. After 10.30 in the evenings, the place was full of riff-raff. There were burns, pick-pockets, pimps and "ladies" the likes of us wouldn't touch with a barge-pole."

It was outrageous that people from this booze-sodden setting should want to accuse waiters of being dishonest.

Take "drunken Lisbeth", for example, who you saw sober about as often as you saw a winning lottery ticket...

"Drunken Lisbeth" said in evidence that Limmer with the help of accomplices had first anesthetised her and then robbed her.

When she came to, she had found that among other things, soup in this supposedly swank beer hall had been watered down, food portions had been reduced so the food would go further and slops had been served up as beer.

Limmer also challenged the evidence of "One-armed Sepp" and said, in reference to the witness's lifestyle, that his summons to appear at a police interview "must have been delivered to a park bench."

According to "One-armed Sepp", Limmer was the worst of the waiters. He

## A pack of lies, cries Munich beerhall waiter

Limmer didn't know about any of these things. Again he referred the court to Almighty God as a character reference and said: "I have never had any of this filth in my hands."

What about the knockout drops? Limmer didn't know about any of these things. Again he referred the court to Almighty God as a character reference and said: "I have never had any of this filth in my hands."

But he did concede that it was just possible, in view of the dirty pigs around, that something involving such drops had occurred.

Limmer was highly critical of another waiter who hung himself in his cell after being caught stealing red-handed and making a written confession.

The confession described how, among other things, soup in this supposedly swank beer hall had been watered down, food portions had been reduced so the food would go further and slops had been served up as beer.

Limmer did make one odd admission: he said it was his habit to try and wake sleeping guests by pouring a little Tabasco pepper down their throats. The hot spice had an amazingly sobering effect.

The hearing continues.

Wolf Peter Schaefer

Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 16 January 1985

## FRONTIERS

## 5 years on, how thalidomide babies are coping with life as adults

ing to get the man, a motor mechanic in Marburg. They say the reason the whole affair was like putting children on trial.

They say the escape was motivated by humanitarian grounds and not political grounds. It was spontaneous and carried out without teachers and other people knowing anything about it.

The parents were not going to let the school and one father threatened to sue if his child were expelled.

The trip was organised by the Vereinigung der Verfolgten des Naziregimes (Organisation of Victims of the Nazi Regime). The school is run by a committee of disabled victims aged between 19 and 25 profit making organisation and pays 240 marks a month.

Trips to Czechoslovakia and England to a higher disability pension. But Germany are regular events for what do they cope with life as thalidomide adults?

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 18 January)

Horst Weller

thalidomide tragedy is so readily understandable. It is hard to believe it happened 13 years ago. Babies whose mothers took thalidomide, a popular sedative during pregnancy were born seriously disabled. There are 2,500 thalidomide victims in the Federal Republic of Germany. Pay 240 marks a month.

Now the New Year they have been encouraged to go to school unaccompanied.

She offers me chocolate ice cream and a can of Coke. She clearly feels happy and at ease here.

When she talks about her disability and her long experience as a thalidomide victim she does so self-assuredly and vivaciously.

"There are times," says Sabine, a 21-year-old psychology student, "when people ask me what happened — whether I was mangled in a machine or something like that."

She too is Bavarian. Her mother is a housewife, her father a salaried worker. She had endless trouble in Bad Kissingen, which is where she was born.

She was pigeonholed as mentally defective, she says, by virtue of having no arms and one leg shorter than the other. She wasn't allowed to attend an ordinary school.

The hardest-hit victims were limbless ones consisting only of heads and arms. Some were born both blind and deaf, as well as having only rudimentary

He had been upset that the Gruner board had let him into the project only after they had been in a meeting and he insisted that the other editors, Schmidt and Gillehause, also be included.

The three of them had been shown

between 10 and 15 volumes of the material

the sheer amount had convinced Koch

they were authentic.

He told the judge that it had all happened

far less dramatically than might be imagined.

Koch had wondered at the beginning

if the documents ought to be published

if they should, in what form.

His proposal had been to present

the documents with a depiction of

the Nazi regime.

He had found the contents of the documents to be fairly scanty and had waited with anticipation for the next volume to be published.

He had allowed himself to be interviewed by the web of secrecy surrounding the whole affair.

Koch, who is now a free-lance journalist in Hamburg, said responsibility for the document was passed from management to the editorial staff at the end of 1982.

He had never known the exact sums of money involved, although he had assumed

they refused, then agreed, then

again. We were frustrated, especially after the first few explanations.

How much are you paying? they asked.

I know people who are paid a fortune just for spending 10 or 15 hours signing autographs. The TV

or them, or mass-circulation magazines.

But he didn't dare mention these figures because he held his colleague in high regard.

In answer to a question from the

Koch said that to his knowledge

Hans Kuch said that for money it's nothing

he couldn't have kept a diary, but he

arranged to meet Hans, a Bavarian

thalidomide victim, in the canteen of a

such centre for the disabled. The

agreement was made two days before

DM100m. Victims have since been

paid a pension from a special endowment fund. Pensions went up by

10 per cent in the New Year. That,

for the time being, is the end of a sad

story. Yet it began so well. Thalidomide, discovered in the early 1950s, was felt to be an ideal sedative and soporific. Unlike many other drugs it first seemed to have no side-effects whatever. It was marketed from 1957 and sold in many countries, in Germany under the brand name Contergan.

Georg, an informatics student, says:

"I was 16 when I realised I was in a bad

way because girls weren't interested in me."

But he decided that: "One of these

days they'll come to realise that disability isn't everything."

Harald plucked up the courage to

take dancing lessons as a 15-year-old.

He got to know many people and sensed

that he was fully accepted and liked or

disliked just like anyone else.

At 18 Georg got to know Maria, who

was two years younger and not handi-



Thalidomide victim Gregor Gehrkenkemper (left) was called on stage to sing a number with rock star Chuck Berry during a concert in Munich.

(Photo: amw)

capped. "We had known each other longer, but that was when it clicked. We have since done almost everything together." His relationship with Maria gives him peace of mind, he says. "I was panic-stricken once when we went through a rough patch."

Difficulties arose when Maria wanted him to meet her parents. Her mother felt very unsure of herself.

"A friendship between a thalidomide victim and someone who isn't handicapped just can't last," she said. "You have to be careful. What if they have children?"

Sabine now has many friends. "It's like being in the pub," she explains. "If you wait for him to speak to you, you can wait till you're blue in the face. You just have to be the first to break the ice."

But not all thalidomide victims have succeeded as readily as Sabine has in leaving home and starting out in life on her own, says Dr Renate Langendieck of a Munich home for the disabled.

"Many just fail to come to terms with the many problems. They feel they must do something very special, something totally out of the ordinary." Many drift toward drugs or Oriental philosophy.

Parents are also unable to come to terms with children leaving home to start lives of their own. "I gave up my job for my daughter," says Frau Reitner, "and say bring her up as my sole purpose in life."

It cost her a great deal of strength, and now her daughter wants to leave home she finds it hard to let her go.

Sabine in contrast gets on well with her parents. "Sooner or later they realised I had to manage on my own. I can't just go away and bide," she says.

Thalidomide needn't be unique, she points out. There may be ample mention of pre-natal care, but few people are really aware of the environmental influences to which they are exposed and the risks they run.

Public relations work in this sector is inadequate, she says. "We thalidomide victims ought to be a warning."

Christian Schwalbach

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 13 January 1985)

## The case

Proceedings against the manufacturers of thalidomide lasted six years. The court case took three years.

Then, on 18 December 1970, the German manufacturers, Grünenthal, agreed to pay the victims DM100m. The case was settled without a verdict. Special legislation was passed and the Bonn government contributed a further